THE EXAMINER.

No. 110. SUNDAY, FEB. 4, 1810.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 108.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

THE Parliamentary Proceedings of the week have been of a more cheering nature than usual; not that any great good has been achieved or any great question settled; but because the petty tricks of the Minister have met with contempt, and one subject at least has been started which concerns the existence of the present state of things. The principal subjects brought before the House were, Votes of Thanks to Lords GAMBIER and WELLINGTON, the Abolition of Grants in Reversion, the Finance Committee, and the present high Price of Gold Bullion.

1. Of the manner in which Votes of Thanks are thrown away, there is no longer occasion to express any surprise. The time for surprise has gone by; and the corruption is of a kind that must necessarily do itself away under any decent Administration. What would formerly have been successfully ridiculed as a claim to this honour, is now openly avowed and carried as a very proper ground: Officers are thanked for merely doing their duty, as in the instance of Lord GAMBIER, whose *inspection* of the Basque Roads action at the distance of *seven miles* not even the Ministers can construe into an exploit. Full of fidelity to his employers, whose Christian spirit he so happily exemplified at Copenhagen, but anxious nevertheless to withhold his devout hands from mischief when occasion serves, his LORDSHIP still adheres to his chosen motto,—*Fide Non Armis;—By Faith, Not Fighting.* It must be confessed, that many of our Commanders would best deserve our thanks upon the same principle; but hey,—presto,—the scene is changed, and if one Gallant Lord is thanked for not fighting, another Gallant Lord is thanked for fighting too much. Lord COCHRANE had said on the former occasion, that if the House persisted in throwing away its Thanks as usual, he for his part should feel no pleasure in receiving them: a few nights after this, Lord WELLINGTON receives the Thanks of Parliament for his distinguished ability in defeating the French at the glorious battle of Talavera, that is to say, in the very accurate translation of Mr. VERNON, "for having extricated himself with great loss and difficulty from the consequences of his own rashness and imprudence." The House laughed when Mr. PERCEVAL wished the Members to set aside every other consideration of the Spanish campaign, but at the same time earnestly deprecated any idea of his intention to *give up* that campaign. The *Right Honourable* Gentleman has all the soul, but by no means all the sense, of a Jesuit; and in his perpetual anxiety to be trimming his dark lanthorn, he holds up the light to betray his own countenance. What sort of an artifice, or an argument, is this! to tell the House that in considering Lord WELLINGTON's battle, they must leave out of their consideration all that led to or that followed that battle, but that the Minister, in getting rid of this consideration for his own present convenience, did not mean to give it up when it should suit him to defend it! The House unfortunately had been too much accustomed to throw away their thanks to attend as they might have done to this betraying piece of jugglery. They laughed, and voted their thanks; and Lord WELLINGTON may be proud of any thing, if he can be proud of this. But to pick out an imposing circumstance in a man's actions, to divest it of every previous or consequent flaw, and then say "Praise this man," is as grossly ridiculous as if a mother were to say "My child is undoubtedly handsome, and every body must call it so who looks at its nose—as to the cheeks, mouth, and eyes, they are not to come into the calculation." Upon this sort of reasoning, there is scarcely an officer who has ever been condemned, setting cowardice aside, who did not deserve the thanks of his country, for whether drunkenness led him to be rash, whether his rashness was followed by defeat or deadly loss, or whatever previous or consequent evils may have *taken away all real merit from the circumstances put together*, it is hardly possible but that some action might have been selected that would look very fine and formidable by itself.

2. and 3. Mr. BANKS's motions on the Reversion Bill and the Finance Committee produced some more short-sighted shufflings from Mr. PERCEVAL, but the House not only laughed at them on these occasions, they scouted them and left the Puritan in a minority *four times*, once on the former question, and thrice on the latter. On the motion indeed to perpetualize the Act for preventing Reversions, his amendment "to continue the Act for a limited time" was *negatived without a division*, though the *Right Honourable* lawyer contended that "nothing could be saved" by the abolition. Another self-betrayal! This amiable and conscientious Minister thinks that the character of the State and the due bestowal of it's rewards are "nothing," positively "nothing." History and common sense, however, think them a great deal, whether maintained or abused;—maintained, they keep up the only true spirit of the nation, and the only rational defiance of its enemies; abused, they render every thing degenerate and corrupt, and breed a sort of impudent reptiles in the land, that perk into every honest man's face and devour his substance at their leisure. It was fit, however, that the "greatest reversionist in the kingdom"

should oppose such a measure, and that he should also, when he could do no better, throw little malicious obstacles in the way of a new Finance Committee. On this occasion, however, he was in the triple minority, and must have cut a sorry figure indeed. The persons appointed are not perhaps the best that might have been selected, and, from what is known of his Parliamentary talent and conduct, Mr. C. Wynne, *one* of the Gentlemen proposed by the Minister, seems to have a better claim than most of the Committee.

4. The Finance indeed, in every point of view, requires most earnest attention from Parliament at this moment, and no motion could have been more well-timed than that of Mr. Horner for an enquiry into the causes of the *present high Price of Gold Bullion and it's effect on Paper Currency*. Mr. Horner did not think "that the high price of Gold and the depreciation of Paper was caused by the Country Banks, nor was he *prepared* to say, that the evil was caused by the undue issue of Notes by the Bank of England." Mr. D. Giddy gave one no high idea of his financial fitness by stating as a happy fact, that "the great circulation of paper materially contributed to throw the specie into the market;" and a Mr. Marryatt thought that "*all the evil* complained of was to be attributed to the use of licences," by which we gave our staple commodities and specie to France in return for her luxuries." When the matter comes to be regularly discussed, it is to be hoped that Mr. Horner and other skilful men will trace up the evil to it's first causes, and do away these frivolous reasonings. Those who have worshipped the system of Government for the last 30 years, will never get rid of their fatal blindness about money, it's omnipotence, and it's immortality. They have worshipped Dagon so long, that they cannot believe in the nonsense of their idolatry even when the idol is overthrown. Mr. Perceval did not scruple to hint that the evil was to be deduced from "the wars so long carried on;" and if it is surprising to hear such a truth from such a man, it is nevertheless curious to see how quite in character he is with regard to the sang-froid and *safe conscience* with which he uttered it. The interruption of the supply of bullion, the Bank issues, and the *prophetic* demand of foreign merchants for our specie and nothing else but our specie, no doubt are very active *final* causes of the depreciation and ruin of paper-money; but the first cause is to be found in our wars, that is to say, in entering into enormous expences, both for ourselves and *our allies, which we never retrieve.*—When Mr. Horner mentions "the many important considerations that arise out of the present situation of the Spanish American colonies," and tells us that those colonies might easily furnish (*if rendered available* for our accommodation) nine millions sterling annually of precious metals," he, as well as every other reflecting person, must shake his head to think how glorious an opportunity we have just let slip of exciting the industry of America and rewarding our own; and he too, as well as every other reflecting person, must shake his head to think how little use even this would have been to us under our present management of things. We waste our money, we throw it over hill and dale into the pockets of princes waiting to be rifled, and then wonder where it can be gone. These are wounds in our credit which no paper-plaister can heal.—The greater or less plenty of money in a state may be of no actual consequence, since the price of labour will keep pace with it, and money after all is not a commodity but it's representative medium, though Mr. D. Giddy talks of it as a commodity, and Mr. Perceval tells us we "must regard it as an article of trade." If it has really come to be an article of trade, Heaven help us.—But though the greater or less plenty of money in a State is of no consequence in a *natural* situation of things, it's home circulation is of indispensible necessity to keep up the spirit, and confidence, and security of the nation, and when we are inundated with an unnatural paper-credit, we may look as big and hug our sides as jovially as we please, but we are in an actual dropsy—our blood is turned into water—our vital principle into a destroying one. Paper-credit, which was first invented to conceal the wants of the State, has been kept up for the same purpose: paper does not truly represent riches; it conceals the defalcation and the bad application of them, and it's credit has at last grown too thin not to be seen through. The flames over which it has been laid already begin to change it's hue, and must inevitably burst through it.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

Paris, Jan. 17.—The *Moniteur* contains two long articles on the subject of the Finances. The first is a Report by the Minister of Finance to the Emperor, in which, after a summary of the receipts and disbursements for the years 1806-7-8, occur the following passages:—

"A sufficient time has not yet been afforded to enable me to submit to your Majesty a precise statement of the receipts and disbursements of 1809. It is, however, probable, that the war expenditure for the last year cannot be under 640 millions, of which sum only 350 millions are chargeable upon the public treasury.—The amount of this expenditure will excite no surprise, when it is considered that, besides an immense Staff, your Majesty has, during 1809, maintained an establishment of 900,000 infantry, 100,000 horses for the cavalry service, and 50,000 for the waggon and artillery train. If the year 1809 must have been, of necessity, expensive, there is every reason to conclude that the year 1810 will admit of great retrenchments. In fact, your Majesty levied 200,000 men in 1809, and it does not appear to be your intention to make any levies in 1810. Sixty thousand horses were bought and equipped in 1809. It does not seem to be in your contemplation to purchase any in 1810. Your Majesty also expects to be able to make a reduction of 200,000 in your military establishment, and to limit it to 700,000; one half of this force being intended to carry on the operations in Spain, and the other to be employed in the defence of the coasts, and in maritime expeditions. Upwards of 800,000 new muskets are deposited in our arsenals, exclusive of the foreign muskets which the fortune of war has thrown into our hands; and your Majesty has upwards of 100,000 pieces of cannon, with all their necessary equipments."

The second article is a long speech of the Chairman of the Committee of Finance of the Legislative Body, in support of the new project of Revenue Regulations. The following are the most interesting passages:—

"A political measure, which drove back to our enemy's ports every thing that their commerce and industry tried to export to the Continent, occasioned a considerable diminution in the revenue accruing from the Customs during the year 1808. The expenditure for that year was also augmented by the army being stationed within the French territory, and by the preparations made for a new war. The proceeds of the Customs were estimated, in the Budget for 1809, at 12,000,000, that is to say, at less than two-thirds of the sum to which they were reduced in 1808. This reduction cannot occasion any embarrassing deficit in our revenue system; whilst it implies an annual diminution of four hundred and sixty millions of francs in the exportations of England; so that the measure which diminishes the proceeds of our Customs, must prove fatal only to that Power which has rendered its adoption necessary. Our contributions remain stationary, whilst England, already sinking under the enormous weight of her public debt, is every year adding to it by fresh loans. The debt is at present 20,769,000,000 f. and the annual interest 736,000,000; which must be defrayed by permanent taxes. In France, the first item of the Budget is 111,000,000, as the interest of the public debt of the richest empire in the universe. During these three years (1807-8-9), if we compare the Budgets of the respective countries, the expenditure of England will be found to have surpassed that of France by the sum of 1,304,421,000f. It should be observed, that under the head of expences, the Budget of England includes only those incurred for the army and navy, with the subsidies granted to Foreign Powers. To institute a just comparison between the Budgets of the two Powers, we should subtract from that of France all that is not comprised in that of England. But one may, without much calculation, perceive the inequality of the struggle between the two countries; and it is easy to foresee the issue. In the one, the science of Finance consists only in throwing into the shade an immense debt, and finding ways and means to augment the load of taxes borne by 15,000,000 of inhabitants. Her Government boasts of having perfected the ruinous system of loans. Her Treasury conceals the amount of the revenues and their application; but her Bank cannot any longer conceal its embarrassment, not having for a length of time paid in specie any of its notes but those of its lowest denomination. In short, such is the situation of her Finances, that she is compelled, in order to perpetuate her taxes, to reject Peace, and regard as a calamity the greatest blessing that Providence can bestow upon mankind."

BAYONNE, JAN. 12.—Troops are daily passing this town on their march to Spain, and those of the 8th corps, under the orders of the Duke of Abrantes, begin to arrive. Yesterday we witnessed the arrival of the 6th regiment of the line, the 21st of horse chasseurs, and the 10th of hussars. These troops are to remain in cantonments in our environs till the division of Regnier has crossed the frontiers. Upon an average, from 12 to 15,000 men arrive daily. They write from Bilboa, that all the Civil Authorities in Biscay have been displaced, and succeeded by French Officers. No doubt is entertained but that the same measure will be pursued in the provinces of Alava, Navarre, and Aragon. The field equipage of the Prince of Neufchatel has reached this place, and his Highness is expected within a few days. —Private letters from Madrid state, that the King is on the point of proceeding to the kingdom of Valencia, at the head of his army, and hopes are entertained that the said kingdom will submit without resistance.

The Kings of WURTEMBURGH and WESTPHALIA have returned to their capitals, and the Count of GORTOFF—*ci devant* King of SWEDEN, has, after a residence of five days at Hamburgh, proceeded on his journey to the place wherein he is destined to pass the remainder of his days in retirement!

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

EXTRAORDINARY FAMILY.—Andrew Pearse, a very *industrious* man, who works at Messrs. Hare and Son's floor-cloth manufactory, Bristol, was married Jan. 20, 1801, to Hannah Taylor, by whom he has had fourteen children in *little more than six years*, with a speedy prospect of a further increase to the family. The children consist of three boys, born Oct. 1, 1801; two boys, Oct. 3, 1802; one boy and a girl, July 16, 1803; two boys, May 13, 1804; one boy and a girl, Feb. 14, 1805; one boy and a girl, Jan. 14, 1806; one boy, Nov. 16, 1807.

Extraordinary coincidences in the lives and deaths of two Gentlemen and two Ladies of Norfolk, whose decease was recently recorded:—Mr. Jary and Mr. Elliott, lately residing in and near South Walsham, married two sisters on the same day; these Ladies both died on the same day, one at five o'clock in the morning, and the other at five in the afternoon; and the same day, viz. the 10th inst. closed the existence of their two husbands, the first at five o'clock in the morning, and the other at five in the afternoon.

On Tuesday se'nnight, a most distressing accident happened to Mr. Bloxham, miller, of Avon Dasset, as he was returning from Warwick with a waggon-load of coals. He stopped his team at Tachbrook, to adjust the gearing on the thill-horse; and by the horses suddenly going forward, he was thrown down, and the wheel going over him in a longitudinal direction, separated the whole of his ribs from the sternum, or breast-bone, desperately wounding the lungs, which were partly forced through his side. In this dreadful state he survived from twelve o'clock at noon, till five the following morning.

Our readers may recollect the circumstances relative to the murder committed on his wife by Mr. Williams, a farmer near Whitchurch, in Shropshire. No tidings had since been heard of the murderer till Tuesday se'nnight, when, as the son of Mr. Faulkner was upon the top of a bay of oats, he discovered the body hanging from the roof of the barn. Near this spot the crime was perpetrated last November; and from the putrid state of the body, it is presumed that he fell a victim to despair, and died by his own hands soon after: there were 17*l.* in his pocket.

A melancholy accident happened on Sunday evening, at the house of Mr. Bagster, at Calcot, near Colnbrook. The servant-maid had put two of Mr. Bagster's children to bed, the one four and the other six years old, and the customary indulgence of a candle was left until they had gone to sleep. In about a quarter of an hour after the return of the maid-servant down stairs, the room in which the children slept was discovered by a stranger passing to be on fire, and an alarm was given. With considerable difficulty the eldest was extricated without having sustained much injury, but the youngest fell a sacrifice to the flames. The fire was got under.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR JANUARY.

The large importations of French Wheat, under licence, have kept the markets tolerably steady in the prices of bread-corn. Government will no doubt exercise a sound discretion on this occasion, in balancing the rightful interest of the grower and consumer. The growing plants of Wheat have generally stocked, and continue their healthful appearance, promising an abundant produce.

The early dibbled Beans in Kent and Essex are above ground, and show well.

The Barley counties of Norfolk and Suffolk will be backward in their Lent seed sowing, particularly on the heavy soils of the latter, from the rains that have fallen in the course of the month.

Clover Seed cobs and rises bad in most parts, from the damp state in which it was got up.

Potatoes turn out a much shorter crop than was expected, particularly in Ireland, where they are risen to 6d. per stone, and in consequence the Oats and Barley of that country have risen in proportion, and the Tares, Rye, and Winter Barley.

The Turnips keep sound in most counties, promising plenty of spring feed.

Lean Stock has not declined in price in the central counties, which at this season is the principal depot.

Smithfield has been well supplied for the three last weeks, with well-conditioned horned cattle and sheep, on reasonable terms, of which, however, the butcher has had the sole advantage.—House Lamb comes up plentifully, but the price is not correspondent.

The Wool markets are brisk, and fine fleeces of Southdown and Merino readily fetch more money.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE SCHELDT EXPEDITION.

The Papers relative to the Scheldt Expedition were laid on the Table of the House of Lords on Monday. They are divided into two branches: the one comprising all the dispatches of the Military, and the other of the Naval Commanders. From those of the Earl of Chatham, little more can be deduced than that he was satisfied with his own conduct. Lord Chatham, at his departure from Walcheren on the 7th of September, left a garrison of 15,000 men in the island, which he thought could not even then be defended, unless by a large naval force. The following Letter, stating the number of the sick and of men fit for duty, on the 27th of October, will shew how rapid the progress of the mortality had been:—

COPY OF A DISPATCH FROM LIEUTENANT-GENERAL DON TO THE EARL OF LIVERPOOL.

Middleburgh, Oct. 27, 1809.

"My Lord,—I have been shewn by Lieutenant-General Sir Eyre Coote the principal military points of this island, and I hope in a few days to be able to make my Report thereon. I have since visited the hospitals, and felt it my indispensable duty not to lose one moment in strongly recommending that ships for 5638 sick may instantly be sent to convey them to England. The sick this day, for whom no conveyance has yet been provided, amount to 4378, and notwithstanding the utmost exertions which may be made, I calculate that the number will increase to 5638, before ships can arrive here for their removal. I have obtained my information respecting the sick of this army from the following sources, viz. from Lieutenant-General Sir Eyre Coote; from the principal Officers of the Medical Department; from the Staff and Regimental Surgeons; and, in the hospitals, from the attendants on the sick. On this head I have consequently every reason to believe that my information is correct; and much do I lament to report that there is not a chance of a single man now in the hospital or convalescent ever recovering sufficiently to undergo the duties of a soldier in the field, unless he be removed from this island in a short time. I must also mention that of the men stated in the returns as fit for duty, more than one-third are incapable of a rapid march of five miles, or of one night's patrolling duty. I have further to report, that if the enemy should force our line of ships of war and armed vessels from Terveere to Rammekins, the sick would inevitably fall into the hands of the enemy. Under these very distressing circumstances I most earnestly solicit, that orders may instantly be given for the sending of vessels here from the nearest ports in England, sufficient for the conveyance of 5638 sick; and I indulge a hope, that these Orders may be followed up through the several departments by some responsible person, to insure their due and prompt execution. I request your Lordship's pardon for this paragraph; but when the lives of British soldiers are at stake, it is the duty of the Lieut.-General to suggest every means to save them.—I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c. "George Don, Lieut.-General."

"P.S.—The rank and file fit for duty this day amount to 4534, and from that number must be deducted the attendants on the sick, and many others who in all armies never appear under arms; besides, as I have already observed, one-third is incapable of considerable exertions."

In September the garrison consisted of 15,000 men. In October it was reduced to 10,172, five thousand six hundred and thirty-eight of whom were sick, and 4534 only fit for duty.—The loss of lives, in the space of fifty days, was therefore *four thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight!* At that period (October 27), Lieut.-Col. Don urged the necessity of sending transports from England to remove the sick, who were continually increasing, and yet not a single transport left this country until the 12th or 13th November, more than a fortnight after they had been so feelingly and forcibly requested! On the *twenty-seventh* of November the sick were at last embarked, after languishing during a *whole month* in the expectation of being conveyed away from a pestilential country, back to the healthy shores of their native land! The number of deaths must have been even far greater than stated, as Lord Chatham tells us on the day previous to his departure from Walcheren, that the sick amounted to *eight thousand*, which of course could not form part of the 15,000 men left to garrison the island, and who *at the time* must have been fit for duty.

A Letter from a secret agent to Government, dated Feb. 20, 1809, contains some particulars relative to the ships of war at Flushing and Antwerp; and to the possibility of destroying them. At that time there were eight 74's and one 36, all new, and a 36 and 24, in Flushing Roads, and three on the stocks. At Antwerp there were nine upon the stocks.—Before our Grand Expedition, however, left England, the Flushing squadron went up the Scheldt to Antwerp, where it now lies in safety.

The NAVAL FORCE employed consisted of 35 ships of the line, 2 ships of 50 guns, 3 ships of 44 guns, 18 frigates, 33 sloops, 5 bomb vessels, 23 gun brigs, 17 hired cutters, 14 Revenue vessels, 5 tenders, 82 gun boats, together with craft.

The MILITARY FORCE consisted of 39,143 men; and Lord CHATHAM'S INSTRUCTIONS were, "that the Expedition had for its object the capture or destruction of the enemy's ships building at Antwerp and Flushing, or afloat in the Scheldt; the destruction of the arsenals and dock-yards at Antwerp, Terneuse, and Flushing; the reduction of the Island of Walcheren; and the rendering, if possible, the Scheldt no longer navigable for ships of war; and instructing, that as soon as the service should be completed, or such parts as were attainable, to re-embark the army and return to England, leaving a sufficient force to maintain possession of Walcheren."

A Letter from Lord Castlereagh to Sir Eyre Coote, dated 24th September, urges the difficulty, if not impossibility, of providing an adequate supply of medical assistants for a calamity so sudden and extensive, in consequence of the number already sent to Walcheren, and the demand for aid to the wounded in Spain.

The number of SICK AND WOUNDED sent home from Walcheren at different times amounted to *twelve thousand eight hundred and sixty-two!*—On this subject the Dispatches from Gen. Sir EYRE COOTE to Lord CASTLEREAGH are peculiarly interesting.—The first Dispatch, dated from Middleburgh, 31st August, urges very strongly the necessity of having additional medical assistance.—Another Dispatch, of the 14th September, states, that up to that day *only one Staff Surgeon and three Hospital Mates* had arrived, and that no additional supply had been sent of medicines, hospital bedding, or comfort of any kind, so imperiously called for by the afflicting number of the sick.—Another, dated 17th September, states, out of 16,000 men, 8200 were then sick. No additional medical assistance had then arrived. The sick so crowded as to lay two in a bed in several places, and that they had no circulation of air.—The 23d September Sir Eyre Coote again states, that no additional medical assistance had reached him (except two hospital mates), and that no comforts or wine fo the sick had arrived; that they were in great distress for por

wine, and should soon be in want of bark.—On the 28th September the quantity of bark in store amounted to 300lbs.; a quantity not more than sufficient for the consumption of four or five days.—Sir Eyre Coote on the 3d October requested that 300 men of one of the Royal Veteran Battalions should be sent out to be employed as orderlies in the Hospitals; but the Commander in Chief objecting to this measure, it was not adopted.—A Dispatch, dated 6th October, states, that the troops laboured under a great privation, from the want of their heavy baggage and warm cloathing, which were left in England agreeably to order.—The same date Sir Eyre speaks of the unexampled and increasing sickness of the troops, which rendered it almost impossible to provide a sufficient number of healthy men (exclusive of other duties) to act as orderlies in the Hospitals.—A Return of Dr. M'Gregor, Inspector of Hospitals, dated 16th October, specifies, that of 18 regiments of the line, whose establishment of Medical Officers was 54, there were only 23 efficient and fit for duty. The Ordnance Department had four; two regiments of the German Legion had only four efficient Officers. At that time no corps in the Island had less than four hundred sick.—The 23d Oct. Sir Eyre Coote speaks of the increasing sickness of the troops, that the convalescents did not gain ground, and that from them no service could be expected, for two or three months after their discharge from the hospital. The last Letter is dated the 27th October, when Sir Eyre Coote left Walcheren to the command of Lieutenant-General Don. The former states, that after all the embarkations of sick, upwards of 4000 then remained in the hospitals, and that in the event of the enemy's landing in the Island, our hospitals (except those at Veere and Flushing) must be abandoned to him. The letters of Sir Eyre Coote breathe the spirit of a most benevolent soldier, feeling for the sufferings of his army like a parent, and do him infinite honour.

Dr. Wenn, Inspector of Hospitals, in his Report, says, "Independent of the existing records of the unhealthiness of Zealand, every object around us depicts it in the most forcible manner; the bottom of every canal that has communication with the sea is thickly covered with an ooze, which when the tide is out emits a most offensive and noisome effluvia; every ditch is filled with water which is loaded with animal and vegetable substances in a state of putrefaction; and the whole island is so flat, and so near the level of the sea, that a large proportion of it is little better than a swamp, and there is scarcely a place where water of a tolerably good quality can be procured.—The effect of all these causes of disease is strongly marked in the appearance of the inhabitants, the greater part of whom are pale and listless. Scrophula is a very general complaint among them. The children are sickly, and many of the grown persons are deformed.—The endemic diseases of this country, remittent and intermittent fevers, begin to appear about the middle of August, and continue to prevail until the commencement of frosty weather checks the exhalations from the earth, gives tone to the debilitated frames of the people, and stops thereby the further progress of the complaints. It is computed that nearly a third of the inhabitants are attacked with fever every sickly season.—If individuals who have lived in this island from their infancy, who observe a degree of cleanliness that can scarcely be surpassed, and who live in spacious apartments, cannot obviate the effects of the climate; it may naturally be concluded what a foreign army must suffer by being exposed, in the first instance, to excessive fatigue, and to the inclemency of the weather, and afterwards by being crowded into barracks, where, under the most favourable circumstances, the sudden transition must have produced a severe and extended disease."

Extract of a Dispatch from Mr. Bathurst to Mr. Secretary Canning, dated Ruda, 15th September, 1809.

"The Emperor is very solicitous that the British force disembarked in Holland should continue their operations in that country, from a conviction, that the action of his Majesty's troops on that point will afford to Austria a more efficacious relief, than a diversion on any other sphere that might be selected.—His Imperial Majesty appears to entertain this idea, from a notion that the inhabitants of Holland and the Low Countries are so ill disposed towards the Government of Bonaparte, as to encourage a hope of their joining the English cause."

Memorandum of Observations made by ——, at the Ports of Boulogne, Calais, Dunkirk, Ostend, Antwerp, and the Island of Flushing:—

At Boulogne there are about 600 craft of different descriptions that compose the flotilla; but they are in such a state of wreck, that they will require to be nearly rebuilt to be of service.

At Calais there are about 70 craft of the flotilla in the same state.

At Dunkirk there are two old frigates, and about 90 vessels of the flotilla in the inner bason; and there are in the outer bason above 50 fine merchant vessels, fit for transports, many of which are English prizes.

At Ostend there are about forty small vessels of the flotilla, and a few merchant vessels, in a very bad state.

At Antwerp there are about 15 vessels of the flotilla, but they are unserviceable; and at Flushing there are only 7, of about 30 tons, with one gun in the bow. At Antwerp there are on the stocks ten eighty-gun ships, and three of them are nearly finished. The situation chosen by Bonaparte for the building of ships of war was occupied by one thousand five hundred houses in 1804, and was the most ancient part of the city; but it is at present reduced to ways and slips for ships, and is capable of being extended to the placing of twenty ships of the line on the stocks at the same time; and their resources for building, from the Black Forest, through the Rhine, are inexhaustible. The mechanics employed in the building these ships are all young men, chosen from among the conscripts. They are formed into military, as well as labouring order. There are a company to each ship, under a Captain; to every two ships there is a superintending builder; and every Sunday they are exercised to military discipline. The work is carried on with amazing rapidity, but perfectly performed.—At Flushing, in the basin, are seven 74 gun ships; with a new Dutch frigate; and on the stocks are two 74 gun ships, a frigate, and a brig; in the roads are the Princess Caroline frigate, and a brig.

At Ramskeys are 7 gun-boats, with one gun on the prow.

There are at Camvere about 40 sail of smugglers, and belonging to them from 300 to 350 prime English seamen, who, as well as the Dutch, would rejoice to see the French removed from their favourite smuggling port, which they have converted into a naval arsenal, and which arbitrary conversion has created great disgust.

The French are ditching round the land-side of the town, To the sea-side they have paid no attention; so that the taking away the ships of Flushing is a matter perfectly practicable, and in proportion to the advantage, the risque is very small.

Were I not fully confident of the advantage and certain success of this Expedition, I would not recommend it, far less would I offer my services to be the first to share in all the dangers that can attend it.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, Jan. 29.

Col. Wainewater presented the Tenth and Eleventh Reports of the Military Inquiry.—Adjourned.

Tuesday, Jan. 30.

About twelve o'clock the Lord Chancellor, Lord Walsingham, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of Salisbury, York, Bristol, Earl Grosvenor, and Lord Bolton, proceeded, according to the custom of Parliament on the anniversary of King Charles's Martyrdom, to hear Divine Service in Westminster Abbey. The sermon was delivered by the Bishop of Bris-

tol, from the 4th chapter of Jeremiah, and tenth verse:—"Then said I, Ah! Lord God, surely thou hast greatly deceived this People in Jerusalem, saying you shall have Peace, whereas the sword reacheth unto the soul!"—The congregation was numerous.

Wednesday, Jan. 31.

There was nothing of importance before the House this day.

Thursday, Feb. 1.

AMERICA.

Lord GREY having moved for the production of various Papers relative to Mr. Erskine's Mission to America, and the motion being agreed to,

Lord ERSKINE rose and said, that it had been rumoured that his near relation, in negociating the treaty with America, had lent rather to the political opinions of the side of the House on which he sat than to those of Ministers. This report was wholly without foundation. Had his son so violated his duty, however dear and dear to him, he would never again have spoken to him. Whenever he touched upon this subject, he trusted he should be found to act like a Peer of the Realm and a Statesman, without any bias or personal motive.

NAVY.

Notice of a motion was given to be made by Lord MELVILLE, on the Reports of Naval Inquiry, on Friday se'nnight, for which day their Lordships were summoned.—Adjourned to Monday.

PROTEST.

The following Protest has been entered on the Journals of the House of Lords against the Vote of Thanks to Lieutenant-General Lord Wellington:—

DISSENTIENT—1. Because, in the battle of Talavera, though eminently distinguished by those splendid proofs of discipline and valour which his Majesty's troops have never failed to display, we cannot recognize those unequivocal characteristics of victory, which can alone form an adequate title to the thanks of this House; on the contrary, the British army appears to have been improvidently led into a situation, in which the repulse of the enemy, effected with a great loss, produced neither security from a subsequent attack, nor relief from the distress under which our brave troops were suffering; and was immediately followed by the necessity of a precipitate retreat, whereby our wounded were left to fall into the hands of the enemy.

2. Because, By voting the Thanks of this House on such an occasion, we diminish the value of the most honourable reward we have it in our power to confer; whilst we indirectly sanction the propriety of that elevation to the honours of the Peerage, with which his Majesty, without inquiry, was advised to mark his approbation of the Commander of his army in Spain, at a time when his Ministers were informed of the unfortunate consequences which might be expected to follow, and in fact did follow, that dear-bought success. GREY.

LAUDERDALE.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, Jan. 29.

NEWSPAPERS.

A Mr. MANNING called the attention of the House to what he deemed a breach of privilege. He held in his hand the *Morning Chronicle*, containing Lists of the Members who voted for and against the Inquiry, which Lists also were distinguished by having asterisks placed against those who were in the Borough interest. This practice, if continued, would call down *severe punishment* upon the offenders.!

A conversation of some length ensued.—Mr. PERCEVAL thought that if such things were *noticed*, a formal *complaint* should be made, as more conformable to the dignity of that House.—Mr. WILBERFORCE thought the practice was a good one, as the conduct of every Member should be fully known to his constituents: but then the Lists should be correct.—Mr. WHITBREAD was of the same opinion; he thought it a most innocent breach of privilege.—The SPEAKER here interfering, the conversation was dropped.

LORD GAMBIER.

Before the Vote of Thanks to Lord Gambier was proposed, Lord COCHRANE entered into a detail of the attack in Basque Roads, and contended, that Lord Gambier had neglected to support him for six hours in that affair, the consequence of which had been, that less was accomplished than might have been achieved.—Lord Cochrane said, he could prove to the House, that the Court Martial who tried Lord Gambier ought to blush for their conduct; and that to give Thanks to an Officer who not only had not gone into the enemy, but who had not been in sight during the whole action, would be doing a thing wholly without precedent. If the House would call for the Minutes of the Trial, they would completely shew the partial manner in which it had been conducted:—the Charge and Evidence were directly contrary to law, and contradictions on oath were admitted by the Judge Advocate.—The House should be on its guard in thus rendering its honours of no value. Lord Cochrane concluded by moving, that the Minutes of Lord Gambier's Trial be laid before the House.

Capt. BERESFORD (one of the Court Martial) thought that Lord Gambier's conduct had been highly honourable; he would have disgraced himself by having acted differently. The Court was composed of officers of unimpeachable veracity.

Mr. PERCEVAL said, that the House was called upon to review the conduct of the Court Martial, which had honourably acquitted the Noble Lord; but that would be highly improper. He thought it would be quite sufficient if the Sentence of the Court was produced; and Mr. PERCEVAL moved an Amendment accordingly.

Sir F. BURDETT thought the production of the Sentence only would be useless. Sir Francis contended that his Noble Friend's signal should have been attended to. Had the gallant Nelson been as desirous of saving his fleet as Lord Gambier, we should have never boasted of the victories of Trafalgar and the Nile. The Admiral of a Fleet must have greater objects in view than the preservation of a few ships. In fact, his Noble Friend had done all that was performed; and why should Lord Gambier be thanked for it?

Mr. YORKE thought the Admiralty much to blame in appointing Lord Cochrane to attack in Basque Roads. His Lordship was a young Officer, not even commanding a line of battle ship; and he thought it rather presumptuous in him to set up his judgment in opposition to Admiral Stopford and other officers of great experience.

Mr. WILBERFORCE, Lord NEWARK, Sir C. HAMILTON, and Mr. CROKER spoke in favour of Lord Gambier.—Mr. WHITBREAD approved of Lord Cochrane's motion.—Mr. PONSONBY disapproved of it.

Lord COCHRANE here observed, that he was willing to undergo the extreme of contempt and scorn, the expulsion from that House, and infamy throughout the world, if he did not substantiate the facts which he pledged to lay before the House. The whole affair was singularly dark and mysterious, and if suffered to be exposed, would fill the country with terror.

Mr. TIERNEY did not like to disturb past acts of Justice; but as to giving the Thanks of the House, he thought they should first be earned. In the present case, nothing had been done to merit them. Lord Gambier had not approached the enemy nearer than *seven* miles.

The House having divided, Lord Cochrane lost his motion by a majority of 152.

Mr. PERCEVAL, after stating the result of the attack in Basque Roads, where the French lost four sail out of eleven, and the rest were rendered useless during the campaign, with the loss to the British of only 10 killed and 30 or 40 wounded, —moved that the Thanks of the House be given to Lord Gambier, for the "zeal, judgment, ability, and attention," he had evinced in that attack.

Lord COCHRANE, with much earnestness, begged the House to remember that its verdict was not conclusive upon character, for the public would exercise its judgment, though the House would not. He wished to know what had been Lord Gambier's

exploit in Basque Roads: he never went into danger; he lay at a distance; and yet, for his supineness, he was now to receive the highest honours the House could bestow. But the Public would think differently; they would look to the facts, and not shut their eyes though the House did.

Sir F. BURDETT saw in the business nothing but the unblushing spirit of ministerial favouritism. Not one good reason had been adduced for the vote asked. There was no evidence of intrepidity or skill, of that boldness which bursts through all obstacles;—the only account given was, that Lord Gambier had inspected the action at a distance of seven miles!

Mr. WINDHAM was averse to the revisal of Courts Martial; but he thought the Thanks of the House should be reserved for great actions, which called for universal admiration. It was fitting the House should pause in voting Thanks; for their rewards were becoming common and therefore worthless.

On a division taking place, there appeared a majority for the motion of 122,—39 voting against it, and for it 161.—Adjourned.

Tuesday, Jan. 30.

The SPEAKER attended the House at ten o'clock, and shortly afterwards proceeded to St. Margaret's Church to hear Divine Service, accompanied by such Members as were present, where a Sermon was preached by the Rev. Charles Proby, Chaplain of the House.

At one the Speaker returned; but there not being Members sufficient present to constitute a House, he signified his intention of being in his place at a quarter before four. At that time, the Speaker having taken the Chair, several private Petitions were presented, and referred to private Committees.

The Thanks of the House were voted to the Rev. C. Proby, for his excellent Sermon.

Mr. WHARTON brought up the Report of the Committee of Supply, when the Resolution was read a first and second time, and agreed to *nem. con.*—Adjourned.

Wednesday, Jan. 31.

ORDNANCE.

In answer to a question put by Mr. CALCRAFT respecting a rumoured defalcation in the Ordnance Department,—Mr. PERCEVAL said, that a discovery had been accidentally made, which proved that a Gentleman in that Department, to say the least of it, had violated an Act of Parliament. The Commissioners of Military Inquiry had been sent to on the subject; they answered, that they had no communication to make, and it did not appear that the public would sustain any considerable loss.

PRIVATE BILLS.

On the motion of Mr. PERCEVAL, a Select Committee was appointed to provide for a greater regularity in passing Private Bills, regulating the Fees, &c.

NAVY ESTIMATES.

In a Committee of Supply the House voted 130,000 Seamen, including 31,000 Marines, for the service of the year 1810.—The sum of 10,879,275*l.* was then voted for wages, victualling, wear and tear, and ordnance. The Sea Fencibles are to be discontinued as useless.

REVERSION BILL.

Mr. BANKES made his promised motion respecting Places in Reversion, and concluded a speech of some length by asking leave to bring in a Bill to make perpetual the Act of last Session for preventing the Grant of Places in Reversion. The arguments urged in favour of this step having been fully before the Public last Session, it is quite useless to repeat them.

Mr. PERCEVAL, however, opposed the motion: he thought the expectations of economy entertained were greatly exaggerated, and did much mischief out of doors. A further suspension of the power of granting Places in Reversion was preferable to the complete abolition of the right. There would be nothing saved by the measure.—Mr. Perceval concluded by moving as an Amendment, the words, "to continue the Act for a limitted time."

This Amendment was opposed by Mr. PONSONBY, Mr. D. GIDDY, and Sir S. ROMILLY, who said, that Reversions were little better than Sinecures; and that though the Chancellor of the Exchequer seemed to think lightly of them, yet it was the opinion of Chief Justice Hale, that the granting Reversions had a most injurious tendency.

In this opinion the House appeared to coincide, for *Mr. Perceval's Amendment was negatived without a division.*

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Mr. BANKES moved, as a Committee for inquiring into the Public Expenditure, that the following Gentlemen should be appointed:—Mr. H. Thornton, Mr. Biddulph, Mr. S. Bourne, Mr. Brogden, Mr. N. Calvert, Mr. H. Cavendish, Alderman Combe, Mr. T. Baring, Mr. Mills, Mr. C. Ellis, Mr. Peel, Mr. Giddy, Mr. Bathurst. (Mr. Bankes was of course included as the Mover.)

Mr. PERCEVAL did not see the necessity of appointing persons on the Committee who all agreed in political sentiment.—He should propose to add the following Gentlemen, two of whom were in the list of his Hon. Friend:—Mr. Peel, Mr. D. Giddy, Mr. Patteson, Mr. C. Dundas, Mr. C. Wynne, Mr. G. Howorth.

Mr. H. THORNTON, Sir J. NEWPORT, and Mr. FULLER, were in favour of the new Committee:—the SOLICITOR-GENERAL, and Mr. D. BROWNE, approved of the old one.

On the question being put, that Mr. Bankes, Mr. H. Thornton, Mr. Biddulph, and Mr. S. Bourne, be appointed on the Committee,—the three first were unanimously agreed to; but Mr. PERCEVAL moved, that Mr. Hawkins Browne should be nominated instead of Mr. Sturges Bourne.—A division of course took place, when *Mr. Perceval's motion was negatived*, by a majority of *Nine*, and Mr. S. Bourne was appointed.—After which, two other divisions took place, *in both of which Mr. Perceval was in a Minority*, Mr. Alderman Combe and Mr. Cavendish being voted on the Committee, in opposition to Mr. Leycester and Mr. D. Browne, both proposed by Mr. Perceval!—Adjourned.

Thursday, Feb. 1.

Mr. YORKE gave notice, that if the House entered to-morrow upon the Inquiry into the Scheldt Expedition, he should move that Strangers be excluded. His object was to guard against the possibility of any misunderstanding out of doors, before the Minutes could be published.

BULLION.

Mr. HORNER thought the House should enquire into the causes of the present high price of gold bullion, and its consequent effect on paper currency. A Select Committee would be necessary for this object. In the mean time he should move for various papers on the subject. He did not think that the high price of gold and the depreciation of paper was caused by the Country Banks, to which some persons attributed it; nor was he prepared to say, that the evil was occasioned by the undue issue of Notes by the Bank of England. He had not yet come to a conclusion upon the subject, though he conjectured that the high price of gold was partly produced by a larger circulation of Bank Notes than was necessary, and partly by the demand for bullion which the foreign trade of this country now called for, under the present peculiar circumstances; such as the purchase of Naval Stores from the Baltic, and Grain from the enemy.—This was matter for inquiry.—If the evil arose from the Bank issues, the remedy was in the hands of Government; but if the high price of gold was caused by the real demand for it as an article with which to carry on our trade, the only cure would be an increased supply. Many important considerations arose out of the present situation of the Spanish Colonies in America. Those colonies might easily furnish (if rendered available for our accommodation) nine millions sterling annually of the precious metals. The debasement of our silver coin required looking into, as well as the change which had taken place in the relative value of gold and silver; the ratio at present was as 1 to 15½.—For these 50 years past the supply of gold and silver from America had not much increased, though the latter was supplied in greater proportion than the former. Mr. Horner concluded with moving for Returns of the Imports and Exports of Bullion and Foreign Coin,

—the amount of Bank of England Notes and Dollars,—the Number of Licences for the Issue of Country Bank Notes,—the Quantity of Bullion and Coin seized when about to be illegally exported, &c. &c.

Mr. D. GIDDY thought that this subject had been purposely wrapped in a mystery which did not belong to it. To him the fact was simply this, that the price of gold and silver, like the price of every other commodity, was regulated by the demand. If a substitute could be found at a cheaper rate, the price would of course be diminished, as the article itself would not be in such demand. He did not think that Country Banks were necessary to the credit of the country: he thought that the great circulation of Paper materially contributed to throw the Specie into the market.

Mr. JOHNSTONE, Mr. MAGENS, Mr. PATTESON, and Mr. H. THORNTON, approved of the motion.

Mr. PERCEVAL did not mean to oppose the motion; but he could not understand how the reduction of Bank Paper could affect the price of bullion. They must consider gold as an article of trade, and if a guinea at Hamburgh was worth more than 21 shillings, no reduction of paper currency at home could affect the rate of exchange in foreign countries, the cause of which rate was to be found in the wars so long carried on, which called for a large supply of money, and occasioned an interruption in the supply of bullion. Though Paper had been put as a substitute for gold, yet gold had increased in price, so that this substitute had not decreased the evil.—He did not profess at present to understand the subject, and therefore made these observations with great diffidence.

Mr. MARRYATT said, that all the evil complained of was to be attributed to the use of licences, by which all the staple commodities of this country were sent to France, in return for which and our specie we received the luxuries of that country, and the butter and cheese of Holland.

Mr. BARING said, that the causes which occasioned the exchange being so much against this country were to be found in the immense import of naval stores from the Baltic, which were paid for in specie. We now received no bullion from the Brazils, but rather sent money there too. The present system of commerce also injured the exchange. Cotton-wool was imported from the Brazils instead of America, though the former was paid for in specie, while the latter had been and might still be had for our own manufactures.

Mr. HORNER's motion was then put and carried.

THANKS TO LORD WELLINGTON.

Mr. PERCEVAL, after asserting that the battle of Talavera was one of the most brilliant achievements ever accomplished by British arms, in which the gallantry of the soldier was equalled only by the skill, ability, and enterprise of the General, moved, "That the Thanks of the House be given to Lord Wellington, for the distinguished ability displayed by him in the battle of Talavera, on the 27th and 28th of July last, which ended in the defeat of the French army."

Lord MILTON moved as an amendment, "That the motion of Thanks to Lord Wellington be set aside, and that one of thanks to the other officers and the army be substituted, with an addition, expressive of the regret of the House that the army had been compelled to retreat; that 1500 of our sick and wounded had fallen into the hands of the enemy," &c.

Mr. VERNON, in a maiden speech, contended, with much spirit, that Lord Wellington had caused the circumstances which led to the useless battle of Talavera,—that they were occasioned by his own rashness and imprudence. The French army, it had been said, was checked in this battle; but the fact was, that our army was checked in its march to Madrid, for which Joseph Bonaparte thanked his troops. Lord Wellington had no resources for such a march; his object appeared to be,

"To put the rabble in a flame,
"And keep their Governors from blame."

As for Spain, the Junta had acted with almost incredible stupidity, and the people had not a Constitution given them worth fighting for. Arms and money might have been sent, but our troops should never have been sent into the heart of the country.

Mr. MATTHEW MONTAGU asserted, that the conduct of Lord Wellington had been guided by consummate skill as well as gallantry. He could not refuse to co-operate with the Spaniards, whom he had given a glorious example of courage and skill. Ministers pursued the steps of the *immortal Pitt*, in keeping the war at a distance. It would better become Gentlemen to support them, who did their best against France, than persuade them to give up Spain, and go out of their way to oppose the thanks to Lord Wellington.

Mr. LEMON, Gen. TARLETON, and Lord FOLKESTONE, supported the amendment.

Lord CASTLEREAGH supported the motion. The victory of Talavera he considered as one of the most splendid on military record, combining the highest personal heroism with the most correct observance of all the established principles of modern warfare.

Mr. WHITBREAD, up to the period of the battle of Talavera, was always inclined to consider Lord Wellington a distinguished officer; but looking to the *effects* of that battle, it was impossible to approve of his conduct; his gallant brethren in arms, though they had participated in his success, had also become the victims of his rashness. The movements of Lord Wellington had neither tended to advance the interests of the Spaniards, nor support the reputation of the British arms.

Col. CRADOCK, Gen. STUART, Gen. MATHEW, Mr. LYTTLETON, and Mr. WINDHAM, supported the Vote of Thanks. The latter Gentleman said, that although the victory of Talavera was followed by a retreat, he thought it of more value to the nation than the capture of a whole archipelago of sugar islands, in the important example of valour it furnished to Europe.

Mr. PONSONBY was averse to the motion.

Mr. CANNING was in favour of it.

The question being called for, the amendment was withdrawn, and the Vote of Thanks agreed to.—Adjourned.

Friday, Feb. 2.

Mr. PERCEVAL moved that the House do resolve into a Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. Lushington in the chair.

Mr. W. SMITH objected to Mr. Lushington as Chairman, on the ground of want of experience, and proposed that Mr. D. Giddy should fill that office.

This was opposed by Mr. PERCEVAL, and after some further conversation, Mr. W. Smith dropped his motion, and Mr. Lushington was appointed Chairman.—(N.B. It may be necessary to observe, that the person holding this situation is paid a salary of 1200*l.* for what reason, we know not, as every Member of Parliament should be constantly at his post. This, however, accounts for the anxiety of Gentlemen to fill it.)

The House having gone into the Committee, the Annual Estimates were moved and agreed to.

SCHELDT EXPEDITION.

Lord PORCHESTER said, that in the papers laid before the House relative to the Scheldt Expedition, there was no plan of operations for the Commander in Chief, neither was the series of correspondence complete. He did not want private letters, but the information given was certainly too scanty, and he should have on Monday to move for other papers.

Lord CASTLEREAGH observed, that the papers laid before the House were incomplete. For his own part, he wished for further information, and as far as it was in his power, would afford every species of it which regarded himself and the share he took in the Expedition, until he resigned his office. He wished to know how the inquiry was to be entered upon. Whether the policy of the measure and the mode of conducting it were to be considered separately or together? As far as regarded Austria, there might be some delicacy necessary to be observed in the communications to be called for. His Lordship again professed his readiness to go into the inquiry, and to give every information in his power.

Mr. PERCEVAL admitted that every necessary paper should be called for; but some parts of this business appeared to him to be more fit to be referred to a *Secret Committee*; he should on Monday move that one be be appointed.

Mr. TIERNEY said, that after what had recently occurred, he did not think the Right Hon. Gentleman would be fond of nominating Committees.—*(A laugh.)*—As the Inquiry, however, was carried against the inclination of Ministers, he was not surprised at their wish for a Secret Committee.

Mr. CANNING's opinion was, that the Inquiry would have been better referred to a Military Tribunal. The House, however, decided otherwise. To the *plan* of the Expedition, he, as one of his Majesty's Councillors at the time, admitted himself to be responsible; but as to the *conduct* of it, he could not be responsible, as he had no share in it. In the prosecution of the Inquiry, he should certainly be attentive, but should take no active part, lest in doing so interested motives might be attributed to him.

The question being put, that the Scheldt Papers should be referred to a Committee of the whole House,

Mr. YORKE moved the Standing Order for the exclusion of Strangers.

The SPEAKER immediately observed, that "Strangers must withdraw."

Upon this order, several persons in the Gallery put on their hats, and turning their backs to the House, actually *hissed!* Some of the Members expressed great indignation at this public expression of feeling; but the Gallery was immediately cleared. After which, it is understood that several Peers and Peers sons still remaining under the Gallery, (the place appointed for them), some Members observed, that if the Standing Order was enforced, it should be impartial. Cries of "withdraw, withdraw!" issued from all sides, and the persons, among whom were the Duke of CUMBERLAND and Lord MULGRAVE, were compelled to leave the House.

It is understood that the House then resolved into a Committee, and after some introductory remarks from Lord PORCHESTER, in allusion to the point on which he should first examine witnesses, Sir David Dundas was called in.—Some doubts then arose as to the power of the House to examine Sir David Dundas, he being a Member of the Privy Council, without his Majesty's consent. He was immediately ordered to withdraw, and after a discussion on the subject, during which Sir David was called in twice, it was determined to defer any examination of him till his Majesty's consent should be obtained; and an Address was ordered to be presented for that purpose.

Lord PORCHESTER having declared that he wished to commence the Inquiry with the testimony of this witness, after a short conversation the House resumed, and the Committee was ordered to sit again on Monday, on which day all the witnesses summoned were directed to attend.—Adjourned till Monday.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

A. and J. Chadwick, Bradbury-green, Cheshire, hatters.

BANKRUPTS.

R. Parnell, Newent, Gloucestershire, tanner. Attornies, Messrs. Tovey and James, Newnham.

J. Gibson, Liverpool, tailor. Attornies, Messrs. Daltera and Topham, Liverpool.

R. Robinson, Kendal, Westmorland, coal-merchant. Attorney, Mr. Petty, Kendal.

W. and E. Appleton, Smedley, Manchester, paper-manufacturers. Attornies, Messrs. Hewit and Kirk, Manchester.

T. Stephenson, Rochdale, Lancashire, brewer. Attorney, Mr. Law, Manchester.

T. Rutlidge, Reading, hatter. Attorney, Mr. Bozon, Plymouth Dock.

J. Lyon, North-place, Gray's-Inn-lane, money-scrivener. Attorney, Mr. Isaacs, Bevis Marks, St. Mary Axe.

R. Houldon, St. Margaret's Hill, Southwark, linen-draper. Attornies, Messrs. Foulkes and Beckett, Gray's-Inn.

J. Ambler, jun. Islington, horse-dealer. Attornies, Messrs. Jones and Roche, Covent-Garden Church-yard.

H. Nicholson, Islington, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Harding, Primrose-street, Bishopsgate-street.

J. Parsons, Bread-street-hill, callenderer. Attornies, Messrs. Payne and Morshhead, Aldermanbury.

T. Phillips, Plough-court, Lombard-street, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Sherwood, Cushion-court, Old Broad-street.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains an account of the capture of Le General Perignon French privateer, of 14 guns and 83 men, by the Amazon, Captain Packer, after a hard chace of 169 miles.—She had lately captured the Unanimity brig, "and from her superior sailing has cruized very successfully against our trade since the commencement of the war."

BANKRUPTS.

J. Clowes, Birmingham, jeweller. Attorney, Mr. Webb, High-street, Birmingham.

F. Robinson, Bordesley, near Birmingham, boot and shoemaker. Attorney, Mr. Webb, High-street, Birmingham.

J. Chiddell, Southampton, porter and ale merchant. Attornies, Messrs. Daman and Warner, Romsey.

W. King, Newport, Isle of Wight, miller. Attorney, Mr. Griffiths, Newport.

T. Croose, Pickett-street, linen-draper. Attorney, Mr. Sweet, King's Bench Walk, Temple.

T. Sunnocks, Ratcliff-Highway, carpenter. Attorney, Mr. Hughes, Christchurch-passage, Newgate-street.

J. Wallis, Croydon, taylor. Attorney, Mr. Jones, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street, London.

T. Nicholls, jun Bradford, Wiltshire, linen-draper. Attornies, Messrs. Clarke and Son, Bristol.

W. Preston, Leeds, Yorkshire, merchant. Attornies, Messrs. Upton, Nicholson, and Hemingway, Leeds.

N. Barber, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, stationer. Attorney, Mr. Bennet, Dean's-court, Doctors' Commons.

J. Wilkes, St. James's-street, Westminster, gun-maker. Attorney, Mr. Parry, Charlotte-street, Portland-place.

J. Taylor, Great Tower-street, woollen-draper. Attorney, Mr. Toulmin, Aldermanbury.

F. Dore, High-street, Borough, upholder. Attorney, Mr. Pearse, Salisbury-square.

W. T. Pass and J. Bailey, Dockhead, Bermondsey, brewers. Attorney, Mr. Lee, Three Crown-court, Southwark.

J. G. Ashley, Gloucester Terrace, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Wild, jun. Castle-street, Falcon-square.

J. Babb, Leadenhall-street, wholesale hosier. Attornies, Messrs. Collins and Walter, Spital-square.

J. Brown, Long-lane, Bermondsey, tanner. Attornies, Messrs. Gale and Son, Bedford-street, Bedford-row.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

RUGANTINO's information has been received, and properly applied.

A. Z.—CUMBRIENSIS,—and other Communications, have been received, and shall appear as soon as possible.

The TITLE, PREFACE, and INDEX, for the last year's *Examiner*, are now ready for delivery.—The VOLUMES FOR LAST YEAR will be ready on Wednesday.

A SECOND EDITION of the *Examiner*, containing the fresh news which may arrive, is regularly published every MONDAY Afternoon, in time for the Post. It is designed for country readers, and contains the London Markets, though not a line of the Original Matter is omitted.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Consols for Money, 67 7/8 | Do. for Act. 68 1/8 | 3 per Red. Ann. 68 3/4.

THE EXAMINER.

London, February 4.

Foreign Papers arrived yesterday, but contain literally nothing.—Of the defalcation in the Ordnance Department, mentioned last Sunday, nothing further has transpired *to any certainty*. It is but justice to state however, that the information of Mr. Hunt's alleged defalcation came to Mr. Perceval in an anonymous letter, a base conveyance that generally carries with it it's own falsehood. Mr. Perceval, however, acted upon it immediately in a very public manner; he communicated the contents to Mr. Ashley Cooper, Clerk of the Ordnance, and a Board was summoned for Thursday, at which Mr. Hunt was requested to attend. He did so, but the moment he heard the accusation and it's medium, left the Office and sent in his resignation. The Ordnance, having 280,000*l.*, at that time in the Bank, suspended it's payments till Thursday, by which time Mr. Hunt's accompts were examined, and according to an Evening Paper of Tuesday, "the charge in the anonymous letter was found to be *without foundation*." But Mr. Perceval, on Wednesday, in answer to a question from Mr. Calcraft, gave the public to understand that it had foundation of some kind, for he said expressly that the person alluded to "had at least violated an Act of Parliament," though the Military Commissioners had not detected the violation, and the public would sustain "no *considerable* loss" by it. What loss the public will sustain, it is fit should be known; and the Examiner will take the first opportunity of sifting the matter. Once more to the contemplation of the Dutch charnel-house, Walcheren.

Some Papers relative to the Walcheren Expedition have been laid before the House of Commons; and though much is wanting to complete the account, though we find nothing cleared up respecting the deadly delays, and no final statement of the sick, wounded, and dead, yet enough is disclosed to increase the public sorrow and indignation. They will be found in another part of this paper, much abridged of course, but so abridged as to save the reader trouble in finding out the particulars. The history of the Expedition does not differ from what was known and conjectured; it is strictly this. In August our immense force sailed for the coast of Holland with instructions "to capture or destroy the enemy's ships building at Antwerp and Flushing, or afloat in the Scheldt, and the arsenals and dock-yards at Antwerp, Terneuse, and Flushing; to reduce the island of Walcheren; to render, if possible, the Scheldt unnavigable; and finally to leave a sufficient force for the maintenance of Walcheren, and return to England." The greater part of these instructions, though we are not told why, was found impracticable: we got footing upon Walcheren in August, but instead of blocking up the Scheldt, the Scheldt was blocked up against us; the arsenals and dock-yards at Antwerp and Terneuse heard no sounds but those of their own hammers and dinner-bells; even the ships at Flushing had escaped; and at the end of five months, all that we had achieved was the possession of the pestilential island of Walcheren and the capture of a frigate and a sloop. The effects of our "conquest" soon manifested themselves upon us; the sword, dipped in poison, turned upon it's masters and slaughtered them, as that of the destroying angel slaughtered the army of Sennacherib. The very first dispatch of Sir Eyre Coote, dated Aug. 31st, urges the strong necessity of additional medical assistance: the second, of the 14th December, says, that up *to that day* only one Staff Surgeon and three Hospital Mates had arrived, and that *no* additional supply had been received, either of medicine, bedding, or any other most necessary comfort. In consequence of these delays added to the horrible climate, the number of sick, on the 17th September, already amounted to 8200;—still no additional medical assistance, though the sick, in several places, were crowded two in a bed, and had no circulation of air. Six days after, the 23d, when the sick were raging with fever and thirst, they were "in great distress" for port wine;—still no additional medical assistance but two hospital mates,—and the bark, the last vital fluid on such occasions, almost gone. What were the Ministers about all this time, and what did they say at last? The next day, 24th, Lord Castlereagh in a letter to Sir Eyre Coote, urges the *difficulty*, if not impossibility, of providing an adequate supply of medical assistants for a calamity so sudden and extensive." Here is an admirable, a truly ministerial, a most humane answer! Are these the "complete preparations" of which we were told? This the "perfect plan," the "all that could be done?" This the way that Bonaparte prepares for what may happen, even with the victory almost certain before him? The assertion of it's being *difficult, if not impossible* to provide an adequate supply of medical assistants for so sudden and extensive a calamity, would be of all assertions the most ridiculous, were it not of all assertions the most odious and inhuman. His Lordship talks of the great demand for aid in Spain; but what a remorseless farce is this! What was become of all the *poor and unpatronized medical men at home*, over whom unpractised young men were sent to Spain? The truth is, that Ministers did not want medical men, but these medical men wanted ministerial interest. The Ministers were dining with and drinking wine at each other, and casting about their patronizing eyes in idle doubt, and all the time, with hollow eyes and parched throats, our countrymen were dying two in a bed—without wine—without proper assistance—*almost a hundred in a day!* Yes, almost a hundred in a day: the loss of lives, in the space of 50 days, from the 7th of September to the 27th of October, was *four thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight!* On that day, on the 27th of October, Gen. Don writes a most urgent and entreating letter to request that ships may be sent to convey home

5638 sick, whose health at least would be entirely lost were they not shortly embarked; he says also, that "of the men *stated in the returns as fit for duty*, more than one-third were incapable of a rapid march of five miles, or of one night's patroling duty;- and yet, as our abridged detail observes, "not a single transport left this country until the 12th or 13th November, more than a fortnight after the ships had been so feelingly and forcibly requested!" One's lips almost quiver with grief and indignation to think of these things. On the 27th of November, after weeks and weeks of unparalleled neglect and suffering, the troops at last are allowed to embark. How many millions of money the country has lost by the Expedition cannot be well conjectured; but the loss of lives may with the greatest probability be calculated at ten thousand—ten thousand of our countrymen, not slain in honourable fight, not cut down in the ardour and high hope of battle, but strewed and crowded upon sick-beds, the victims of hideous disease and still more hideous delay and corruption. As all this was undertaken to do something if possible for the Emperor of AUSTRIA, when his fate was in doubt with no decent thinker, so our troops, it seems, were kept in sickness and misery at Walcheren to do something for him, when nothing could be done. The Emperor then was as ignorant of the state of Walcheren, or as careless of the lives of our soldiers, as the English Ministers! But it is no matter: the graves of our countrymen are closed—the tears of their friends and relations flow at their sacred leisure—and nothing remains for the past but reform and retribution.

This deadly subject is now before Parliament, and the country expects it to be well settled. As to closing the doors, the effect of the anticipations of Mr. YORKE, the Anti-Jacobin alarmist, it is a very immaterial circumstance, that must destroy itself; and if the people are deprived of the best and clearest mode of coming at the evidence, the measure itself amply repays them by shewing the ministerial feeling on the occasion. Nothing, in fact, is now wanted for the due appreciation of the whole of that wretched business.

NAPOLEON has executed his Treaty with the Emperor of GERMANY, the troops of France having evacuated every stipulated place. It seems, however, that a considerable corps of French troops is to winter on the German side of the Rhine. NAPOLEON may believe in the fidelity of the Emperor of GERMANY; but he also knows that the spirit of coalition is not yet defunct.

Tranquillity is restored in the Tyrol and the Voralberg.—What is become of the Tyrolese Deputies? When they arrived in London, the public attention was powerfully excited by the *exposé* of their resources—of the 250,000 men, who wanted nothing to re-kindle the flame of war but—money! As the hopes of the good people of London must have some object, we have since got the Persian Ambassador. On Persia, and the natural union between that country and Great Britain, are our hopes now fixed. What is the real object of the visit of the Persian Ambassador—are the Persians, too, in want of money?

ONE CAUSE OF THE SCARCITY OF SPECIE.—A Letter from Vienna, dated Dec. 29, says,—"The whole of the contribution which we were indebted to France has been paid; two-thirds in ready money, and one-third in bills of exchange. There have been sent off, within eight days, *forty carriages loaded with money*. It is said here in confidence, that the greatest part of this money has been supplied by England, on account of subsidies. It is wonderful to see the English pay to France the contribution the latter imposes upon us; it is thus that English gold returns ultimately to NAPOLEON."

In the Dispatch of Lord CASTLEREAGH to Earl CHATHAM, announcing his MAJESTY's satisfaction at the surrender of Flushing, is the following remarkable sentence:—"His MAJESTY rejoices, that this serious obstacle to the vigorous prosecution of the *ulterior* objects of the Expedition has thus been seasonably overcome; and his MAJESTY feels persuaded that those important objects will be followed up, without a moment's loss of time, with *the same energy, perseverance*, and *rapidity*, which have hitherto distinguished the course of your Lordship's operations!!!"

TAPEGE, the Otaheitan who has been in this country for two or three years, is about to return to Otaheite very shortly under the patronage of Government. For some time past he has been at Mr. LANCASTER's School for instruction.

SWINDLING.—A man of the name of *Chamberlain*, a Bond-street blood, was yesterday brought from Suffolk-street to Bow-street Office, to answer various charges of fraud. The prisoner is a fine young man, whose address and appearance are well calculated to impose on the unwary, and he was some time since a partner in a firm of some magnitude in Fleet-street. Mr. DAVIS, a jeweller in Jermyn-street, proved the prisoner had obtained jewellery articles to the amount of 40*l.* of him, by a false representation of himself; and the prisoner ordered a valuable service of plate of Mr. WIGNAM, in St. James's-street, the greater part of which was luckily saved. There are at least a dozen other persons who have been defrauded by the prisoner. He was a known swindler on the town two years ago, but his person being in danger, he took a tour into the North, and, whilst the *hue and cry* was after him in London, he was safely locked up in Carlisle jail on a charge of forgery. He made his appearance in London again about three weeks ago, since which time he has defrauded the persons here spoken of. A gentleman in the Office held a fictitious bill which the prisoner paid to MARLIN, at Bagshot, for a loan of 16*l.* The prisoner, two years ago, was driven to the inn at Bagshot in a chaise and four, and he obtained the money of MARLIN by representing himself as the bearer of dispatches from Spain.—He was fully committed for trial.

DEALERS IN SULPHUR.

MR. EDITOR, *Feb. 2d*, 1810.

The Anti-Calvinistic spirit which I have at all times observed to pervade your Journal, and the attacks which you have lately made against that hydra-headed monster, the MOLOCH of Methodism, have induced me to send you the following Evangelical Anecdote:—

A Rider lately overtaking another near Macclesfield, a conversation ensued relative to their respective engage-

ments, when the latter informed him that he travelled to take orders for a Dry-salter; upon which he recommended him to go to a gentleman, who (he informed him) dealt very largely in Sulphur. Upon his arrival, he immediately went to pay his devoirs to him, and request his custom. Upon being introduced into the parlour, he informed the supposed sulphur dealer that he was a traveller for one of the most respectable houses in London, and should be very happy to serve him; that he had not the least doubt but of giving satisfaction, and of affording him the best of the sort, on the most advantageous terms.—Sir, said the gentleman, do you know whom you are speaking to?—Yes, Sir, I am informed that you make use of a great quantity of sulphur in your manufactory.—Sir, you are under a mistake, I am a *Dissenting Minister*.—Yours, &c.

VERAX.

THE OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Opera House, Jan 27, 1810.

SIR,—I will thank you to take an early opportunity to contradict a statement contained in your Paper of the 21st inst. "that the Chevalier La Cuisa has the direction of the Orchestra" of the Opera House this season; there not being, I assure you, the smallest foundation in truth for such an assertion.—I am, Sir, your very obedient servant,

WM. TAYLOR.

THE TWO PERSIAN AMBASSADORS.

BLEPHARO. *Ain! tu alterum te reperisse domi consimilem Sosiam?*

SOSIA. *Ain———*

—Ego ille alter Sosia, qui illic sum, me malis muleavit modis.

B.—Do you say that you found another Sosia at home like yourself?

S.—I do; *I* am that other Sosia, who am there, and misused *me* sadly. PLAUT. *Amphit.* Act. iv.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

DEAR SIR,—There is a curious passage in the English History, which is very little known, though very deserving of present attention. The particulars of it are preserved in "*An Account of* Sir D. COTTON'S *Embassy to Persia in* 1628," published among the *State Papers* of Lord CLARENDON, fol. 36. Oxford 1767. Of the splendid reception of this Embassy in Persia by the mighty SHAH ABAS, I shall say nothing, but merely state the occasion of its being sent.

"Sir D. COTTON, precisely following those directions, which he received from his Majesty, relateth unto the King of PERSIA, how Lord SHIRLEY, as his Ambassador, had, in his name, made certain overtures unto the King his Master; that whilst the same did hang in treaty, NAGHTE BEG arrived with a *new* Embassy, disavowed my Lord SHIRLEY, tore his commission, and *violently struck him*. That the King his master, forth of respect to his Majesty, whose servant NAGHTE BEG pretended himself, had forborn to proceed in justice against him for this outrage; but had *sent both him*, and the Lord SHIRLEY along with him (COTTON) unto his Majesty."—*Extract.*

Unluckily it happened that very soon after the arrival of these *two Ambassadors* in Persia, his Lordship died of fright, and NAGHTE BEG poisoned himself with opium; and the great SHAH ABAS could never be brought to acknowledge either of them. The consequence has been, that from that hour to this, it has never been ascertained which of them was the real Ambassador, or whether both of them were not impostors. Fortunately for the honour of the crown of Great Britain, we now have an Envoy from Persia of a very different character; one who has been justly received here with as much joy as the King of Persia would have been, had he come himself. He is not at all maintained at the public expence*, he has brought many rich presents†, and expects none in return. Then it must be confessed that his beard would do honour to a hermit, an ancient philosopher, or Æsculapius himself, whose gravity is noted by Arnobius, "*ex barba amplissima, boni ponderis, ac philosophicæ densitatis.*" It does not, however, (unless *par excellence*), give him any claim to the title of *Excellency*—He is, at best, only an Envoy‡, and not an *Ambassador* in England. What he is in his own country may possibly be better known when he returns to it; which return will not, it is hoped, resemble that of NAGHTE BEG.

Yours truly,

THE AUTHOR OF "MY POCKET-BOOK."

* It is a cheerful consideration to the economist, as he might reasonably expect the same gorgeous feasting as Lord Shirley and his suite enjoyed in Persia. "We were *fourtsen* persons," says Sir D. Cotton, "and the whole allowance of the rich and great Vicar General, for all this company, came unto *two shillings and sixpence* the day,—6lb of flesh, 6lb of rice, 12lb of bread, with cheese and butter,—together 2s. 6d. Water to drink where we could find it,—*nothing*."—fol. 45.

† Their value has not transpired, and knowing the esteem in which presents are held by the Princes of the East, it is impossible to imagine what the prodigality and profusion of his Court may have done. There, Cotton says, "they listen more after the present than after the business, and relish none without."—fol. 36.

‡ This is his title in the Gazette, but we still hear him called Excellency.

FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY ARCHITECTURAL LECTURES.

On Monday week, Mr. SOANE read his third Lecture to an audience more numerous than has been witnessed for a series of years past; and consisting not only of most of the able Professors and emulous Students in Art, but a considerable number of Amateurs and Literati. His Lecture was worthy of such an audience,—lucid, comprehensive, and impressive. The language was perspicuous without plainness, and neat without affectation. I recommend to the enlightened, and in some degree, poetic Academician, Mr. SHEE, to take a lesson of simplicity of prosaic diction from the Discourses of the Architectural Professor. Mr. SHEE's prose is so bedizened with ornament, so intermixed with poetical flourish, that he gives us no fewer than seven of that dangerous figure, Alliteration, in the small compass of as many lines, and that too in a note.* This is

* A process of *reasoning* carried on in *wrinkles*, *assents* in *smiles* and negatives in frowns; we should find *muscles* making *metaphysical* distinctions, *delicate* emotions *dimpling* in all *directions*, and *prophetic passions* announcing in *premature* agonies *conjectural* events and *contingent consequences!!*—Canto 2, page 132.—See also almost every page of the book, which abounds in judicious remark, and the gaudy glitter of strained rhetorical figures and affected elegance of diction.

as absurd as if an architect was to blend the graceful length and rich flutings of the Corinthian column, with the plain capital and entablature of the Tuscan. The Professor commenced by describing the origin, proportions, and characters of the Tuscan and Composite Orders; the former first adopted by the Etrurians, the latter by the Romans, and hence often denominated the Roman Order. It was first used after a decree of the Senate for the erection of an arch, and for ornamenting it with a new Order in honour of Titus, who was so actively virtuous an Emperor, that he was once heard to lament his having suffered a single day to elapse without the accomplishment of benefit to his fellow-creatures.—What an historical satire on most modern monarchs—the chief delight of whose silly or sanguinary minds appears to be to plunder their impoverished people of money, and waste their lives in miserable wars! The Romans, however, continued the Professor, failed in establishing a new Order, as the Composite and Tuscan are mere partial changes of the component parts of the Corinthian, Ionic, and Doric, the character of the former resembling those Orders, and that of the latter the Doric, being a little plainer and stronger. He described the vain attempts of Professors at architectural novelty in deviating from the antique, and in a lively manner ridiculed the puerile attempts of Pseudo Artists to invent an Order. One of these was the imitation, for a capital, of the cap and feathers worn by the blind King of Bohemia at the battle of Cressy, and surmounting a fantastic shaft. These the vain designer fancied would ever exist as proud memorials of his inventive genius, as well as of the military renown of the illustrious Black Prince, who conquered that battle from the French King John. He instanced also the Botanic Order, produced about a century since by one Mousieur De Laroche. With these and other similar examples, the periwigs and hats of Hogarth might vie for grace, beauty, and dignity. Beside columns, the Egyptians and Greeks used imitations of human figures, as supports to entablatures. Those of the latter, denominated Caryatides and Persians, from the captive slaves of Caria and Persia, were partly designed to perpetuate the Greek conquests over and contempt of the natives of those countries. Among others, the Professor instanced a noble specimen of Caryatides in the temple of Erectheus at Athens, but said, that modern Architects were not justified by the example of the Greeks in adopting them. The learned Professor said, that the short forms, denominated Attics, should never be used but on occasions of absolute necessity. They mostly injured the harmonious effect of the Order to which they were attached, for they belonged to no Order. He entered into a particular description of the shafts of columns, pronouncing them grand in their simple state, rich in their fluted, but ridiculous in the twisted state. Twisted columns were as gross defects in Architecture, as deformities of the human body were in Painting. Too much attention could not be paid to columns, whose proportions and characters should vary agreeably to the different purposes for which they were raised. He described the proper application of the different kinds of columniation. Vitruvius treated of five different kinds. He mentioned some others, one of which the vanity of the French arrogated to themselves the invention of. He detailed the names and characters of the various species of temples, and exhibited a beautiful model of the Hypetral. He descanted on the introduction of disproportionate sculpture into buildings; exhibited a specimen of a temple in which a figure of Jupiter sat, with his head touching the roof, and deduced from this misapplication the sentiment contained in the following couplet:—

"One science only will one genius fit,
"So vast is art, so narrow human wit."

The Professor next gave a general account of the beautiful and sublime cities of Balbec and Palmyra, one temple of which covered an area of several acres. Their structures were also rendered peculiarly magnificent by the introduction of a profusion of columns, statues, and various other rich ornaments. He described the temple of Diana at Ephesus as occupying in its erection no less a portion of time than 255 years, and demanding in the supply of its materials the resources of Asia. The Professor urged to the Student the importance of analyzing the principles and practice of the Ancients. He said, that as the opportunities of designing extensive structures seldom occurred, the young Professor might exhibit his genius in small ones; indeed, it was more difficult to display talent in a small than larger compass, from the paucity of the materials. He shewed the necessity of an ardent attachment of the Student to his art in order to obtain eminence, and instanced the early, laudable, and constant enthusiasm of Palladio, who, when a youth, made accurate measurements of the remains of antiquity. He exhibited specimens of the introduction of columns into the interior of buildings, shewed how they were improperly so used, that the architrave only, and not entire entablatures, should appear within the walls, and that modillions and dentyls should always be omitted. The learned Professor next remarked as follows:—The ancients sometimes used semi-columns in the interior and exterior. The relative magnitude of columns were to be determined by the size of the object to which they belonged. Columns in houses ought to be very delicate, and the Ionic should never be adopted in them. The houses of the ancients were without columns. Insulated columns above columns were to be avoided. Whenever they were adopted by the ancients, the upper were always smallest. The Professor lamented the little encouragement bestowed on genuine Architecture in Britain since the time of the tasteful Lord Burlington; and that ignorance itself, in the persons of carpenters and bricklayers, was employed in the design and erection of large and expensive works. He earnestly recommended the study of Vitruvius and other celebrated masters, and as much as possible the union of practice with theory, without the former of which little progress can be made. He said, that to attain celebrity in Architecture was as arduous, if not more arduous, than to acquire excellence in Painting and Sculpture, which present greater facilities of study; and concluded an excellent lecture by indignantly condemning the invidious and degrading classification of the Fine Arts into the positive, comparative, and superlative degrees of Architecture, Sculpture, and Painting.

It is to be regretted that want of room allows only of the following outline of Mr. Soane's Lecture of last Monday. The Professor remarked that very few of the structures of antiquity were without columns. The Greeks and Romans erected them in commemoration of splendid achievements, and several states often united in the expense of the honourable testimonial. Square columns, or

pilasters, help to enrich a structure, but have not the beauty or dignity of the round. Those called Antæ were considered by the ancients as ornamental accessaries only, as they originated in the ends of walls. Entire and heavy entablatures over them are growing evils, and a series of pilasters in the front of a building is insipid. PALLADIO and SERLIO were, however, partial to them. The missapplication of them and their entablatures, is justly condemned in the following couplet:—

"'Tis use alone which sanctifies expense,
"And splendor borrows all its rays from sense."

The pedestal ought only to be used in cases of necessity. The noble decoration denominated pedement, was considered by the Greeks as one of the most beautiful and important constituents of Architecture, and the Romans applied it only to the temples of their deities. The servile Senate, however, gratified the vanity of CESAR by permitting him only to decorate his house with it. In the purest productions of antiquity, it represented the roof, extended over the whole structure, and was triangular. Covent-garden Church is a noble specimen of it. It is often injudiciously placed at the sides of an edifice, or in the centre, as in Lord SPENCER's house in the Green Park. A variety of differently formed windows in a building is destructive of unity and beauty. Obelisks originated with the Egyptians, and were rendered by them sacred to religion, or used as historical records. They have been often injudiciously appropriated without relation to their origin, and improperly placed on pedestals and pyramids, the latter of which were invented by the Egyptians, and are the most lasting of all structures. They were receptacles of the dead. They have been often misapplied, and absurdly united to Grecian forms.—In enforcing the necessity of studying the antique, the Professer descanted on various Roman productions, especially the Amphitheatre of Vespasian, in which 80,000 persons could conveniently sit, the Basilica of Dioclesian, the Triumphal Arch of Constantine, the Arch of Septimius Severus, and the Ruins of Tivoli, all of which edifices communicated valuable information. The Palace of Dioclesian, occupying a space of nine acres, was full of beautiful forms and ingenious combinations. From his time is dated the decline of Roman Architecture.—The Professor lamented that so dignified and useful an art should be so frequently degraded in England by fashionable upholsterers, decorative landscape gardeners, and popular auctioneers. He regretted that the Academy had distributed so few medals to the Architectural candidates of last season, all of whom merited reward; and finished a luminous Lecture by enforcing on the Student the necessity of acquiring the principles of Sculpture and Painting.—The Professor was heard with great pleasure and applause by an immense and enlightened audience.

The lectures were read with a considerable decrease of the faults mentioned in our last. The Lecturer has chiefly to avoid hurry, which appears to be occasioned by a laudable enthusiasm in his noble Art.

R. H.

The following Letter relates to a Plan for the Regeneration of the almost dormant Art of Engraving; a Plan which will be shortly submitted by the Calcographic Society to the consideration and encouragement of the leading Patrons of the Fine Arts. The Society was established three years since, for the purpose of promoting the extensively useful, and elegant translating Art of Engraving. Its third Anniversary was most harmoniously and convivially commemorated by its highly respectable Members last Thursday week, at which Mr. Warren presided. The following Toasts were given—"The Calcographic Society—May its endeavours to promote and improve the Art of Engraving be successfull."—"The Royal Academy."—"Mr. West, its venerable President. May he speedily recover from his present indisposition, and long live an ornament to the British School of Art."—This was drank with enthusiasm.—"The Pencil, Chisel, and Graver. May their efforts unite to support and improve the Arts of the British Empire."—"Mr. Stothard. May his *Canterbury Pilgrims*, bearing each a *genuine* character in his countenance, find an English welcome every where."—"The admirers and encouragers of the Art of Engraving."—Messrs. Emery and Taylor exerted their best powers of entertainment. Many eminent Artists, Amateurs, and Patrons, honoured the Society with their presence.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY TO THE CALCOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

SIR, *Newman-street, Jan.* 23, 1810.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your obliging letter, which conveyed to me the Paper from the Members of the Calcographic Society: and I have to request you will take the first opportunity to assure those Gentlemen, that I have attentively perused their Paper—and do highly approve of their plan and zeal for promoting the Art of Engraving in this country.

It will not be improper for me on this occasion to present you with the movements of the Fine Arts in this country for the last half century.

Soon after his present Majesty ascended the Throne, he was graciously pleased to call together the few self-created artists of established celebrity, and he gave them his commands to plan an Academy for cultivating the higher classes in Art. The breasts of every artist then glowed with the pleasing prospect which presented itself to their view, in the further exaltation of the Fine Arts to excellence in this country, with the Sovereign as their patron and Head. Thus the Royal Academy of Arts in London was established.

His Majesty's benign regard for the infant Institution, cherished those efforts which the Artists annually made to raise it to that proud distinction which it holds with the other societies of the world; and the arts rose to that eminence to be acknowledged by all the civilized nations as pre-eminent in Europe.

The prints then produced by *the united efforts of the Painters and the Engravers*, attracted the admiration of the promoters of the Fine Arts on the Continent, and those Prints received a demand as well as an increase of price unknown at any period prior to that. This great demand, and increase of price, brought forth commercial speculators in Art—who supposed that every print they produced would be as productive in price to them, as the print of the *Death of Wolfe* by WOOLLETT was to its proprietors. With those speculators in prints—the Polygraphic Society was to supply the enlightened part of mankind with Historical Pictures—and the invention of mechanical machines were to make prints of a superior taste, to supply the markets of the universe!

You will see by the above, what was the cause of the rapid rise of the arts in this country, as well as their rapid decline; and the prevailing turn of the people to commercial views in the Fine Arts, and of manufacturing principles in all their undertakings. Yet it must be al-

lowed, that there is no other nation in the world, when divided into classes, which will produce in each class so many men of wealth as this: and when taken in the aggregate can exhibit such a mass of riches; but notwithstanding this wealth, neither the acknowledged abilities of a STRANGE, a WOOLLETT, or a BARTOLOZZI, could have found in this country subsistence by their labours, were it not for that patronage their merits drew from the Continent of Europe; and as a proof how torpid patronage is here, we find that since the exclusion of English prints from the Continent, both Historical Painting and Historical Engraving have sunk, for want of national patronage, to that level they stood at fifty years past, when they had no other patronage than that which flowed from the fashionable booksellers of the day, for embellishing their several publications. And to that condition are those two most exalted departments in Art reduced at present. But, Sir, it is a consolation to the friends of genius to know, notwithstanding the sickly condition of the public mind at this time towards the Fine Arts, that the powers which are capable of producing excellence in them are more numerous at present than at any known period in this country; and that there are many Gentlemen of both rank and fortune zealous to effect their restoration to dignity. And I have reason to know, that the time is not far distant when those Gentlemen mean to move the Government of this country for aid, the better to enable them to bring forward a plan for cherishing the higher departments in Art. Under such aid, we may calculate that both historical painting and engraving will receive a new life, as the works intended are to be national and honourable.

If my friendship can be of the least use to the Gentlemen of the Calcographic Society in promoting their views, I shall have a pride in giving it; and you will be so good as to make my respects known to them, with the full assurance of my sincere wishes for the prosperity of their undertaking.

To yourself, I am, with friendship and great respect, as well as, Sir, your most obedient and obliged,

BENJAMIN WEST.

P. S. The indisposition which has confined me to my bed and room for the last six weeks, I still labour under, which will deprive me of that gratification I otherwise should have in dining with the Gentlemen of the Calcographic Society on the 26th instant.

Mr. L. Schiavonetti.

ARTISTS' FUND.

Another General Meeting of Artists, not Members of the Royal Academy, was held on Thursday, A. W. DEVIS, Esq. in the Chair. The Resolutions prepared by the Committee were submitted to the Meeting, and adopted with a few alterations. Two Funds are to be established:—one formed by the Artists themselves, for their own immediate benefit; the other to be established by general subscription, for the purpose of relieving decayed Artists, Widows, and Orphans.—It was originally proposed to have only one general fund for these objects; but with a very proper feeling of self-respect, the Meeting were decidedly in favour of forming two, in order that the Members of the Society should receive assistance only from their own subscriptions, leaving the Fund raised by public donations solely for benevolent purposes.—The causes which led to the misunderstanding at a former General Meeting, when the worthy Keeper of the British Institution, Mr. V. GREEN, was in the Chair, having been wholly removed, the proceedings of Thursday were conducted with that concord which should ever distinguish the Meetings of persons devoted to the liberal Arts.—An Institution of this kind has become particularly necessary since the Royal Academy have resolved to confine their aid to Members of their own body.

The late J. HOPPNER, Esq. was one of the most eminent portrait painters since the time of REYNOLDS. He might indeed have merited the praise of being the first, if he had not been so close an imitator of the style of that great master, as it related to the spirit and elegance of his touch, forcible effect of light and shade, picturesque backgrounds, graceful simplicity of attitude, and especially the richness and harmony of colouring, in which he certainly excelled all his cotemporaries. In some of his best coloured works, such as the *Nymph* in the possession of the tasteful Sir J. LEICESTER, the vivacity, truth, and delicacy of the various fleshy tints, have scarcely been surpassed by any master. But if he could boast of displaying much of the merit, he possessed all the faults of his prototype, especially that of incorrect drawing of the human figure, a defect for which not even the colouring of RUBENS or TITIAN himself can ever atone.

The Prince of WALES has appointed Mr. OWEN his Portrait Painter, in the room of the late Mr. HOPPNER. Mr. OWEN is an ornament to his art.

CITY.

THANKS TO COLONEL WARDLE.

On Tuesday Mr. Wardle attended at Guildhall, to receive the Thanks and the Freedom of the City, in a gold box of the value of 100 guineas, voted him by the Corporation, for his able and patriotic conduct in the House of Commons, in bringing forward charges against the Commander in Chief. He was introduced to the Chamberlain by Mr. Alderman Goodbehere and Mr. Waithman (the mover and seconder), attended by several of the Livery, who received him in the most polite manner. After administering the oath, Mr. Chamberlain addressed him in the following words:—

"GWYLLIM LLOYD WARDLE, Esq.—I give you joy, and in the name of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons, of the City of London, in Common Council assembled, and agreeable to their unanimous Resolution, admit you to the Freedom of the Metropolis of the British Empire. The Court has likewise unanimously resolved, that you "having, unawed by Ministerial threats, exhibited serious charges against the late Commander in Chief, which you have clearly substantiated, and which have in fact induced his Royal Highness to resign a situation of which, in the opinion of the Court, he is unworthy," are entitled to the esteem and gratitude of the Court and the Country. I am, therefore, Sir, to return you the Thanks of the Court, together with a Memorial of your Admission to the Freedom of this City, in a Gold Box, of the value of one hundred guineas, "in grateful testimony of the high sense they entertain of the zeal, intrepidity, and patriotism, which were so eminently displayed in that arduous and laudable undertaking." The Court having so fully expressed their sense of the importance of the late investigation, and of your meritorious conduct and perseverance, there is nothing left for me to add upon that subject. But, Sir, allow me to express a wish for your health and happiness, and that you may live to witness the good which we may hope will result from your exertions. And may mankind in general, and especially those of exalted rank, and in confidential situations,

be deeply impressed with the truth which has been declared by the Prince of Historians, that *Femina amissa pudicitia alia abnuerit.*"

Mr. Wardle then, on receiving a copy of the Thanks and the Box from the Chamberlain, addressed him as follows:—

"SIR—With sentiments of the highest respect and gratitude I accept the Freedom of the City of London. I am little capable of saying how much I feel honoured by so high and proud a mark of distinction. For, however strong my nerves may be when my duty calls me forth in defence of the rights and liberties of the people, still, when so highly respected a portion of that people are conferring upon me such an invaluable pledge of their approbation, I feel myself unequal to do more than offer my plain, but heartfelt thanks. And yet, Sir, it is not alone this mark of favour that I am bound to acknowledge, but I have also to express my gratitude for that uniform and steady support given me by the Citizens of London, during the progress of those unexampled attacks that have been made upon me in consequence of that very conduct which has been so distinguished by their approbation. That support, Sir, has enabled me successfully to defend myself against my enemies, the enemies of every public man who dares to expose and attack corruption. By continuing to expose and attack it wherever it may offer itself, I trust to have continued to me the confidence and support of the first City in the world. It is no small satisfaction to me to receive my Freedom during the Mayoralty of a Gentleman who has already shewn himself the firm friend of the rights and liberties of the people, and of our excellent Constitution—such as it once was, and such as I trust it once more will be!—To you, Sir, for the handsome and flattering manner in which you have conferred this high honour upon me, much is due, and I beg to thank you kindly."

The Colonel and his friends then retired from Guildhall.—They afterwards dined together.

FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

MORNING DRESSES are made high in the neck, with lace let in on the bosom, in the form of a festoon of flowers, or a bouquet, composed of the most delicate needle-work and lace; the sleeves are worked with small sprigs to correspond; plain cambric is now preferred to the French cord. The sashes are of muslin edged with lace. Trains are fashionable, but short dresses for convenience, are more general. Yellow Morocco shoes, with a small bunch of jonquilles worn in a lace cap with a full border, tied with a yellow handkerchief, render this a most becoming dress.

DINNER DRESSES are mostly made of cloth or stuff, high in the neck, with a falling collar of fine embroidered muslin, or frill of lace; a bouquet of natural flowers in coloured embroidery on the bosom, worked round the arm-holes, with a wreath to correspond; long sleeves with lace cuffs.

In the EVENING or FULL DRESS, the gowns are mostly made in the frock form, the sleeves long, and the waist much shorter. Grace and nature have once more resumed their empire, consequently the long stays are wholly exploded. Satins, velvets, gossamer gauzes, and coloured crapes are much worn; but fine India muslins, embroidered round the bottom, accord best with the nymph-like air of our youthful BELLES, with bouquets in the bosom, and flowers on the head placed *a-la-Daphne*. Small silk jackets, edged with lace, are likewise simply elegant. Tiara caps, Persian, or Sicilian turbans, or silver gauze or muslin, are the prevailing ornaments for the head. The neck continues to be partially covered by a small lace handkerchief thrown over one shoulder. Satin and swansdown tippets are still very fashionable, as are white satin coats and mantles, trimmed with swansdown. Muffs are very generally worn.

In respect to the fashion for JEWELLERY, the Ceylon style most prevails. Necklaces of various coloured gems, crosses to correspond, ear-rings in the form of a pear; broaches representing the heart's-ease, flies, and a thousand other devices in flowers, shells, and insects of exquisite beauty and workmanship, with girdles, clasps, coronets, and bracelets; necklaces of pink topaz and amethysts, with ear-rings to match, were all much worn at the Drawing-room.

No alteration has taken place in shoes, except that they are edged with sable or fur, for the promenade; they continue to be embroidered in silver for full dress. Plain silk stockings are preferred by our *Belles* of fashion.

The prevailing colours for the season are ruby, emerald, amethyst, drab, rose, and olive-brown.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

Early on Friday morning an alarming fire broke out in one of the upper rooms at Copenhagen House, which at first burst with such fury that it threatened destruction to the whole building; but, fortunately, by the prompt exertions of several of the surrounding inhabitants, and the timely arrival of several engines from town, it was soon extinguished.

A late Inspector of forged Notes in the Bank of England, and who has been very active in prosecutions and convictions for forging and uttering, has been in confinement for some days, charged with uttering some notes of the Wooton Basset Bank, in Wiltshire, which had been stolen on their way to town.

MARRIAGES.

At Bincombe, near Dorchester, Mr. Cooper, aged 78, to Mrs. Patience, aged 69 years.

At Gisburn, in Craven, Mr. T. Bank, to Miss Martha Hague. The bridegroom is a twin, and his twin brother attended; the bride is a twin, and her twin sister attended; the clergyman who officiated is a twin, and the parish clerk is a twin; his twin sister (who lives in that parish) and who has been married twelve years, has had twins twice—all living.

At Monkwearmouth, Mr. R. of Monkwearmouth Shore, taylor, to Miss D. of Southwick. No sooner was the ceremony over, than the fair one seemed to *demur*, and strange as it may appear, she has not yet deigned to place herself in *that situation* in which a man's *rib* ought to be—in plain English, she has not gone home.

DEATHS.

Mr. W. Morris, banker, of Carmarthen, worth 50,000*l.* A few minutes before his death, he ordered his daughter to play a dying hymn on the piano, to which he sung.

In the 100th year of his age, Mr. J. Dobbs, of Huntley, Gloucestershire.

On Thursday, the 25th ult. after a short illness, aged 83, John Lynch, Esq. Barrister, of the Middle Temple, "a man," says a correspondent, "not less distinguished by his talents and knowledge than by his kind and benevolent disposition. To attempt a description of the many virtues this truly good man possessed, would form but a shadow of what he really merited; we shall only add, that he has left a mournful blank in the circle of his relatives, and has occasioned the deepest and most sincere regret to his numerous friends. He was the author of several useful and ingenious publications, as well as poetic effusions, and although many have been so well received by the public as to call for repeated editions, he would never willingly, even to his most intimate friends, acknowledge himself the author of them. He has left a young and amiable wife, and an only son, to lament his loss."

A poor woman of Aslackby, Dorothy, wife of John Williamson, at the repeated request of her sister, who had been ill some time, and lived near Horncastle, lately walked over to see her. The poor woman performed the journey without much fatigue; but she had been in the house only a few minutes, and had scarcely exchanged the ordinary greetings on such a meeting, when she died! The sister was so overpowered by the circumstance, that she herself expired within an hour afterwards.

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